Promoting Bio-diesel

4336. SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY:

DR T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:-

(a) whether Government will soon come out with an action plan, to launch pilot projects in different States to promote bio-diesel as an alternative fuel;

(b) if so, whether the Ministry is exploring the contract farming avenues to promote oil palm cultivation;

(c) whether Government have decided to consult experts which would work out various details including the technical and commercial linkages, cost of production of bio-diesel;

(d) if so, whether a meeting of the concerned Central and State Departments have been convened to discuss the pilot project; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) The Government is contemplating an action plan to launch pilot project in different states to promote bio-diesel as an alternative fuel.

(b) The concept of the contract farming for production of oilseeds including promoting the cultivation of oil palm is at initial stages.

(c) to (e): Question does not arise in the light of answer to part (a)&(b).

Assistance to Rajasthan

†4337. DR. PRABHA THAKUR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:-

(a) whether the amount of Rs.682.3 5 crore given recently to Rajasthan by Government on account of drought is sufficient upto the month of July;

(b) the amount of assistance sought by Rajasthan Government in respect of drought;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.